IN THE CLAIMS:

1 (currently amended). Method for checking the use of a system for transmitting information in the form of multidimensional matrix codes, said system using a computer linked to a data base containing identification and addressing data of addressees and programmed so as to carry out the following operations:

- of allocating to each user an electronic circuit able to be connected to the computer and including a memory able to be accessed on reading and writing by said computer, said memory containing information relating to an access code the operator is to transmit to the computer so as to be able to use the method and to a credit allocated to the user, said memory further containing identification information of the authorized user, said identification information being allocated at the moment of purchasing the circuit or even downloaded.
- for each addressee, the setting up of an identification information sequence including the identification data of the addressee and each document to be sent to it,
- the coding of the identification information sequences respectively in the form of dot matrixes whose number and position in each matrix indicate the value and position in the sequence of each information unit composing the identification information sequence,
- the coding and the inserting in said matrixes of identification information of the authorized user present in said memory,
- the formatting and customization of the documents for each addressee including the insertion of the identification matrix of the addressee and the document in the portion of the document to be sent back by the addressee,
- the transmission by the system of the customized documents to the corresponding addressees,
- the receiving by the system of the documents returned by the addressees,
- the reading and decoding of the identification matrixes featured on the documents received and the processing of said documents in association with the read and decoded identification data,
- the documenting by the computer of the credit allocated to the user at the time of each use according to the number of edited matrix codes,
- the taking into account of the using up of the credit contained in said memory and on the basis of this taking into account, prohibiting any subsequent use of the method.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 (currently amended). Method for checking the use of a system for transmitting information in the form of multidimensional matrix codes, said system using a computer linked to a data base containing identification and addressing data of addressees and programmed so as to carry out the following operations:

- of allocating to each user an electronic circuit able to be connected to the computer and including a memory able to be accessed on reading and writing by said computer, said memory containing information relating to an access code the operator is to transmit to the computer so as to be able to use the method and to a credit allocated to the user, said memory further containing identification information of the authorized user, said identification information being allocated at the moment of purchasing the circuit or even downloaded,

- for each addressee, the setting up of an identification information sequence including the identification data of the addressee and each document to be sent to it,

- the coding of the identification information sequences respectively in the form of dot matrixes whose number and position in each matrix indicate the value and position in the sequence of each information unit composing the identification information sequence,

- the coding and the inserting in said matrixes of identification information of the authorized user present in said memory,

- the formatting and customization of the documents for each addressee including the insertion of the identification matrix of the addressee and the document in the portion of the document to be sent back by the addressee,

- the transmission by the system of the customized documents to the corresponding addressees,

- the receiving by the system of the documents returned by the addressees,

- the reading and decoding of the identification matrixes featured on the documents received and the processing of said documents in association with the read and decoded identification data,

- the documenting by the computer of the credit allocated to the user at the time of each use according to the number of edited matrix codes,

- the taking into account of the using up of the credit contained in said memory and on the basis of this taking into account, prohibiting any subsequent use of the method.

~~wherein it consists of allocating to each user an electronic circuit able to be connected to the computer and including a memory able to be accessed on reading and writing by said computer, said memory containing information relating to an access code the operator is to transmit to the computer so as to be able to use the method and to a credit allocated to the user, this credit being automatically decremented by the computer at the time of each use according to the parameters relating to this use.~~

2 (cancelled).

3 (cancelled).

4 (originally filed). Method according to claim 3, wherein the credit contained in said memory can be downloaded.

5 (cancelled).

6 (cancelled).

7 (originally filed). Method according to claim 1, wherein said electronic circuit is connected to a marked series port of the computer.

8 (originally filed). Method according to claim 1, wherein the identification information sequences to be coded contain duplicated identification information associated with at least one check sum.

9 (originally filed). Method according to claim 1, wherein the processing of document portions received include the reading and storage of information featured in these document portions in association with the read and decoded identification data.

10 (originally filed). Method according to claim 1, wherein the document portions transmitted by the addressees include boxes to be ticked, the method further including the identification of the boxes ticked and not ticked by the addressee.

11 (originally filed). Method according to claim 1, wherein the coded information sequence coded in the form of dot matrixes and fixed on a document contains the identification information of the document.

12 (originally filed). Method according to claim 1, wherein the document sent to each addressee includes several portions, the method including the insertion in each document portion of an identification matrix obtained by the coding of an identification information sequence of the addressee, the document and the document portion.

13 (originally filed). Method according to claim 1, wherein the documents are sent by mail from the processing system to the addressees.

14 (originally filed). Method according to claim 1, wherein the documents are sent by fax from the processing system to the addressees.

15 (originally filed). Method according to claim 1, wherein the documents are sent by electronic messaging from the processing system to the addressees.

16 (originally filed). Method according to claim 1, wherein it further includes a stage for parametering the matrix code including the introduction of the type of matrix coding to be used, a security and redundancy ratio, the size of the points of the matrix, the proportions of the matrix and possibly the size of the matrix.

17 (originally filed). Method according to claim 1, wherein it further includes the updating of the data base with the information provided in the document portions transmitted by the addressees by indicating if appropriate the addressees who have not received the document sent to them because the address used in erroneous.

18 (originally filed). Method according to claim 17, wherein it further includes the retransmitting of customized documents to the addressees whose address has been used for the first transmission is incorrect by using other transmission means when the address corresponding to these means is available.

19 (originally filed). Method according to claim 1, wherein said matrix codes are three-dimensional.